

CITY OF MANCHESTER

Board of Aldermen

August 19, 2014

Chairman Tom Wheeler Commissioner Mignon Clyburn Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel Commissioner Ajit Pai Commissioner Michael O'Rielly Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I serve as Chairman of the Board of Aldermen in Manchester, New Hampshire, which routinely appears on lists of best cities in which to live and operate a business. The Equality of Opportunity Project last year ranked Manchester as the seventh best metropolitan area in the nation in terms of upward income mobility. That status is the result of fruitful partnerships with businesses and organizations in the city. A major partner here is Comcast. It is one of the largest employers in Manchester and an able and willing collaborator on city projects.

Comcast contributes significantly to the city and state economy, having spent many millions on its operations and community donations in New Hampshire last year. Comcast operations resulted in an injection of more than \$26 million in taxes and fees to local and state treasuries. Comcast is a national leader in digital technology with its broadband and video services. The company also makes a powerful impact in the social services arena, improving lives of the less fortunate in our city of just over 110,000 residents. With these considerations in mind, I respectfully request that the Commission approve the proposed Comcast and Time Warner Cable transaction. I believe there would be measurable benefits for many.

Among other appointments, I serve as an alderman on the Community Improvement Committee for the city and the Special Committee on Alcohol & Other Drugs. I interact with innumerable businesses and their representatives as a result, and I see how Comcast is committed to and involved in such life-changing projects here as "City Year." Each year since 2000, AmeriCorps volunteers come to Manchester through City Year and work in classrooms in our poorest schools, coaching children and leading activities. I understand that Comcast has donated millions to City Year programs in the U.S., through cash and free airtime to promote the program. Students' performance has certainly increased, with 97 percent of third-through-fifth grade students in six Manchester elementary schools improving their raw literacy score through the program.

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That's an impact Comcast has made through just one program here. It also is a significant donor to New Hampshire Families in Transition (FIT), which has, for 22 years, supplied safe and affordable housing as well as extensive social services to the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

Comcast has consistently supplied us with fast Internet and a myriad of improving technology. It has stepped up when city projects were in need of assistance. We've come to expect community engagement from Comcast and I know that it would operate the same in any city in which it operated.

Please extend this potential for strong corporate-community partnership to new regions by approving the proposed transaction.

Sincerely,

Daniel O'Neil

At-Large Alderman